

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 19, No. 45

TORONTO 2, CANADA

March 10th, 1928

You can clean up on this film IF YOU ACT NOW!

Released **TO-DAY!** The film of the hour
with the personality of the hour.



Ready for use: One Sheet,
Three Sheet, Press and Ad Copy.

A Showman Event!

Here is the first review of
the sensational aero-
nautical career of "We,"
America's pride, the "Lone
Eagle." It traces his rise
from obscurity to world
fame.

*A short subject special in
three exciting, accurate
documentary reels.*



A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

WIRE OR TELEPHONE TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING M-G-M BRANCHES:

ALBANY, N. Y.—1060 Broadway
ATLANTA, GA.—191 Walton St., N. W.
BOSTON, MASS.—60 Church Street
BUFFALO, N. Y.—509 Pearl Street
CHARLOTTE, N. C.—219 West 4th St.
CHICAGO, ILL.—831 So. Wabash Ave.
CINCINNATI, OHIO—526 Broadway
CLEVELAND, OHIO—
East 21st Street and Payne Avenue
DALLAS, TEXAS—300½ So. Harwood St.
DENVER, COLO.—805 21st Street
DES MOINES, IOWA—1111 High Street
DETROIT, MICH.—2310 Cass Avenue
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—
438 No. Illinois Street
KANSAS CITY, MO.—
1706 Wyandotte Street
LOS ANGELES, CAL.—
1964 South Vermont Avenue
MEMPHIS, TENN.—494 So. Second St.
MILWAUKEE, WIS.—102 Ninth Street
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—
74 Glenwood Avenue
NEW HAVEN, CONN.—134 Meadow St.
NEW ORLEANS, LA.—223 So. Liberty St.
NEW YORK CITY—729 Seventh Avenue
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.—
515 So. Robinson Street
OMAHA, NEB.—1512 Davenport Street
PHILADELPHIA, PA.—1228 Vine Street
PITTSBURGH, PA.—1014 Forbes Street
PORTLAND, ORE.—451 Glisan Street
ST. LOUIS, MO.—3332 Olive Street
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH—
204 East First South Street
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.—
215 Golden Gate Avenue
SEATTLE, WASH.—2401 Second Avenue
WASHINGTON, D. C.—
1009 New Jersey Avenue, N. W.
TORONTO, CANADA—
1205 Royal Bank Building

Something That Has Never Happened Before!

HISTORY

*is now written in the
motion picture industry*

KING VIDOR'S THE CROWD

in one sensational week
at popular prices at the
Capitol Theatre, N. Y., lifts
itself into Road-Show class
by popular and critical
acclaim and is now playing

TWICE DAILY at \$2.00
at the **ASTOR THEATRE**

Again M-G-M makes history!
Always M-G-M makes history!

THE TOP OF THE INDUSTRY

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

\$600,000 Is The Objective

GOVERNORS AND OFFICIALS CO-OPERATE TO HELP THE JESTERS OF HUMANITY

National Vaudeville Artists' Drive for Sick and Benefit Fund

April 8th to 15th Inclusive

Midnight Show Adopted

THE MIDNIGHT SHOW idea, outstanding feature of N. V. A. Week in past years, this year has been adopted almost unanimously throughout the nation for the climax of the annual drive, April 8 to 15 inclusive, in behalf of the National Vaudeville Artists' Sick and Benefit Fund. This year more than ever before, the musicians, the stage hands and organized labor unions generally are showing a marked determination to aid the cause by donating their services for the midnight shows.

Governors and Officials Help

In twenty-three states, the Governors; and in 72 cities, the chief executives, have issued proclamations or special public messages, commending N. V. A. Week and its objectives and urging the public to attend the shows and co-operate with the philanthropic purposes of the drive. In many cities, Boston, Columbus, Providence, Philadelphia, and others, the Mayor has volunteered to address the audience in behalf of the N. V. A. drive that week. Prominent men in all walks of life already have begun to promote the celebration at dinner and luncheon clubs.

Midnight Shows - Carnivals For Fund

Some of the smaller manufacturing towns with "early to bed" populations will substitute an N. V. A. carnival ball for the midnight show; but in the larger cities, Boston, Brooklyn, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, St. Louis, New Orleans, Philadelphia, there will be from two to four midnight shows on different nights and in separate sections. This year early reports from local managers show that the spirit of co-operation has extended far beyond the limits of Vaudeville itself. Motion picture houses and artists are volunteering to join in the N. V. A. midnight shows. And stars of opera and the dramatic stage also are offering to donate their services for these events. In St. Louis, for instance, the N. V. A. midnight benefit has been planned for April 19 (the week following the national drive) in order to give Ethel Barrymore and Fay Bainter, both of whom have engagements there at that time, the opportunity they seek to help out the sick and benefit fund of the Vaudeville artists.

Opening New Airport as Event

In Syracuse, the city officials have joined with Mayor Charles Hanna and Manager Burnes of B. F. Keith's Theatre in a plan to make the opening of the new airport there coincide with N. V. A. Week, and to have the indoor ceremonials part of the week's events in that theatre. Ottawa's only vaudeville theatre will signalize N. V. A. Week's midnight show by the official presentation of the "Albee Trophy" to the winners of the Big Four Hockey League of Ottawa. This splendid trophy is competed for annually and is regarded throughout Canada as the championship emblem.

Billboards Donate Space

In many of the large cities—notably in Boston, Philadelphia, New York and Chicago—the great billboard advertising companies have donated 24-sheet and lesser "stands" on fences, buildings and in the subways and railway stations for the posting of N. V. A. Week billing. The newspapers everywhere are outdoing one another by giving special low advertising rates and generous space for reading matter and pictures promotive of the big annual Vaudeville Week.

Vice-Regal Command For Coronal and Falkland

By Vice-Regal command, the British feature, "The Battle of Coronal and Falkland Islands," dealing with the historic naval engagement, is to be screened before Their Excellencies, the Governor-General of Canada, and Viscountess Willingdon, and 50 invited guests at Rideau Hall, the official residence at Ottawa, Ontario, on Wednesday evening, March 14.

A portable projector will be used for the presentation which will take place in the banquet hall of Government House. Arrangements for the screening are being made by Ray Tubman, manager of the Regent and Imperial Theatres, Ottawa. The feature is distributed in Canada by Regal Films, Limited, Toronto.

Henry MacRae has been selected by Hoot Gibson to direct him in "Doubling for Trouble" by Arthur Statter. He has also chosen Eugenia Gilbert as his leading lady for this picture.

Florists Donate Flowers

Early advices from all managers tell of extraordinary preparations for the celebration: street parades, flag and light decorations, window displays, gorgeous lobby decorations. In several cities (and for the first time) the florists have offered to donate all the flowers that can be used for sale and decorations at the N. V. A. Week midnight shows, and the usual contributions from other merchants of small souvenirs and "favors" of the occasion will further enhance the returns of the week.

What Will Canada Do?

What will Canada do to make the N. V. A. drive co-operative here? Canada with its chain of theatres from coast to coast. Canada which is building and developing its Amusement activities at a tremendous pace.

Canada whose vaudeville appetite is placing artists from this field in nearly all of its Motion Picture theatres.

Incidentally this drive is our drive. The interests of the Amusement world are linked and overlap.

\$600,000 is the objective to build a sanitarium at Saranac to take care of artists who have become afflicted with tuberculosis. Funds for dependents, wives of artists, widows, orphans. Funds used constructively to build up body and the economic independence of those players who are the jesters of the world; and among the world's greatest givers in Service.

All Star Mystery Week At Imperial, Montreal

Howard Conover, manager of the Imperial Theatre, a Keith-Albee house of Montreal, Quebec, presented an "All Star Mystery Week" starting March 11 when he did not announce the title of any picture or vaudeville act on the bill. The only hint was afforded in the newspaper advertising which contained a scene from the screen feature along with the statement: "On the screen: A First National Picture with two of their most popular stars."

A fire scare with the scare left out took place at the Fern Theatre, 413 Bank Street, Ottawa, a popular neighborhood house of the Canadian Capital, on March 6 when a fire was discovered in the building shortly after nine o'clock. The fire department handled the situation quickly while Manager Fred Benson took care of the crowd. There was no disturbance and the performance proceeded.

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Hon. A. M. Manson Censorship Campaign Four Western Provinces Fail To Agree

Hon. A. M. Manson of Vancouver, B.C., Attorney-General of the Province of British Columbia, has found out that the other Provinces of the Dominion do not want Federal censorship of moving pictures. Even his proposal for unified censorship of films in the four Western Provinces of Canada has been frowned upon by Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. Manson launched a movement to abolish the present system of film censorship, in which pictures are reviewed in each of nine Provinces before they are presented in the respective jurisdictions, in order to effect economies in cost, time and labor for the governments, the film exchanges and the theatres. British Columbia offered to go more than half way in the matter as a start. But the proposal has not been favorably received, he announced March 10.

Mr. Manson admitted that Dominion control of moving pictures seemed to be out of the question because the other Provinces, particularly Quebec, preferred their own systems.

Hundreds of films had been "trimmed" by the British Columbia board, he pointed out, while many had been thrown out altogether "because they were unsuited to Canadian purposes." British films had not met with an complaints so far as he recalled.

A. D. Watts & Co. Offering Consolidated Shares

A. D. Watts & Company are making a public offering of 13,000 shares of the common stock, no par value, of Consolidated Theatres Corp. (Quebec), at a price of \$15.00 per share.

The authorized capital of the company and the amount to be outstanding is 30,000 shares, no bonds or preferred stock is being issued.

The Consolidated now operate six theatres, located at Montreal, Verdun, Sherbrooke, with an aggregate capacity of 4,400; and is intending to take over the leases on two additional theatres with a joint capacity of 1,750. Proceeds of the issue are to be utilized to retire the existing \$20,000 preferred stock, and for working capital.

J. Arthur Hirsch and J. J. Rosenthal, of Quebec, are in control of the company.

The balance sheet on December 31st, 1927, showed cash in hand of over \$100,000, after providing for current liabilities and current assets over 33 times current liabilities.

Edward Godal in Charge Godal International Films

Edward Godal is now in control of the Godal International Films, the British Amalgamated Films, Ltd., with offices in London, England.

Three Boys Guilty Ones Destroy Films Regent Ottawa

Three boys who had broken into the Regent Theatre, Ottawa, Ont., were dealt with in the Juvenile Court on March 9, when the charge against one of the youths was withdrawn; the second was remanded to the Detention Home for one week and the third was placed on probation and was allowed to go.

It was only a short time ago that the Regent, a downtown house, was the scene of midnight vandalism when the reels of film, which were ready for shipment back to the exchanges, were cut to shreds and scattered all over the lobby. One reel was taken away in its entirety. Manager Ray Tubman never traced the miscreants.

Wellington Investment Buys Casino Theatre Ottawa

The downtown business property on Sussex Street, Ottawa, Ontario, which includes the Casino Theatre, has been bought by Wellington Investments, Limited, Ottawa, for \$300,000, both Canadian and American capital being involved. Fred Gallagher is the manager and lessee of the Casino, which has been operated as a motion picture house for years.

Vulcan Theatre, Alberta Gets New Curtain

The Vulcan Theatre, Alberta, is all dressed up with new scenery, new curtain, and stage settings.

SUPERLATIVE EQUIPMENT

VALLEN CURTAIN CONTROLS AND TRACKS—

The noiseless electrically driven automatic curtain winch, operated by pushbutton from any desired location, that, in conjunction with the Vallen noiseless curtain track, draws back, or closes the heaviest curtains noiselessly and smoothly, lending that most desirable classy touch to your performances. Controls for any size or style of curtain. Tracks for any length or use.

FULCO BOOTH ACCESSORIES—

Besides the many familiar Fulco products such as Exit Boxes, Roll Ticket Holders, Carbon Savers, Lugs, Cement, Reels, Rewinders, etc., we now offer a most comprehensive line of self contained Booth Cabinets made by Fulco. These Cabinets consist of a steel work table, with or without steel drawers, fitted with hand or power driven enclosed rewriter, asbestos walled film storage cases with individual reel compartments, spare reel shelf, and approved waste can. There are several designs and combinations to choose from. These outfits are not a fad, they are positive assurance of safety against fire, and are a convenience and safeguard that ought to be in use in every projection room.

ROSS LENSES—

A well-known camera lens manufacturer has a slogan, "It's All In The Lens." If that is true of cameras, it is ten times true applied to the projector. The Ross Lens is made in England, of magnificent optical and mechanical construction. It has a very large working aperture F-2.4, permitting maximum transmission of light, and the formula used demands the rear combination very close to the aperture, the result being very bright, snappy, sharp images full of detail and contrast. The superiority of the Ross Lens over several other common makes of lenses in actual test is truly amazing.

The Motiograph DeLuxe in Mazda or Reflector Arc Models at \$1,000.00 each delivered to your Theatre is **Some Value.**

If you don't know the DeLuxe it's your business to find out and our business to tell you.

THE COLEMAN ELECTRIC Co.

Canada's Leading Theatre
Supply House

258 Victoria St. - Toronto, Ont.

"Courtesy With Service"

The De Luxe Reflector Arc—50% more light than others; 100% better built than others; 100% complete, no extras. \$500.00 a pair delivered.

Again **Some Value.**

New Motion Picture Act To Get Second Reading

The Motion Picture Act of the Province of Quebec, under consideration of the Quebec Legislature, has passed its first reading in the Provincial Parliament and is being presented in amended form for second reading.

A change brought in by Hon. L. A. Taschereau, premier of the Province, who is sponsoring the bill, provides that moving pictures may be presented at school institutions for children under 16 years of age for either educational or recreational purposes when no admission charge is made.

The measure itself prohibits children under the age limit from attending moving picture theatres at all times, whether accompanied by parents or not. The only exception is provided in the amendment which allows juveniles to see moving pictures in the schools when no admission fee is charged.

"The Gang" Comedy Smiles Through "Smiles"

"The Gang" comedy presented plenty of "Smiles Philosophy" in its "Smiles" comedy at the Uptown, Toronto. "Farina" was the "leader of the gang," ably assisted by "the gang," and as usual this Hal Roach family registered real entertainment.

British Dominion Film Co. Commonwealth of Nations

Launch \$1,500,000 Issue for Pictures in Each Dominion

The British Dominions Films Company has launched an issue of \$1,500,000 for the purpose of making one picture in each of the nations which go towards making up the Commonwealth of the nations of the British Empire. Canada, Australia, South Africa, India, will all furnish stories local to their dominion and production will take place within each of the dominions for the purpose of producing the feature.

New French Commission Hold Up Films

Three Hundred Pictures Await Commission's Decision

About eight percent of the season's new product of pictures is held up, awaiting the decision of the newly appointed Censorship Commission, Paris.

The U. S. Dept. of Commerce has instructed its official representative to take up the cause of the delay with the French Government. It is conjectured that the delay may be occasioned by a desire to manoeuvre French and American Film reciprocity agreements.

Ontario Government Collections for Fiscal Year

The Ontario Government collected \$1,729,734.21 from the theatres of the Province and from the amusement patrons during the last fiscal year, according to the annual statement of the Provincial Treasurer's Department which has just been presented for the Legislative Assembly at Toronto.

The theatre ticket tax provided a revenue during the 12 months of \$1,567,630.48 while theatre license fees collected by the Government amounted to \$78,365.24. Road shows contributed a total of \$19,147.09 during the fiscal period.

The annual report shows that the Ontario Board of Moving Picture Censors derived a revenue of \$37,837.60 in fees for the censorship of reels during the term. The Ontario Government Motion Picture Bureau also secured revenue to the extent of \$26,753.80 from rentals of the official releases. This bureau has offices at Toronto while the studio is at Trenton, Ontario.

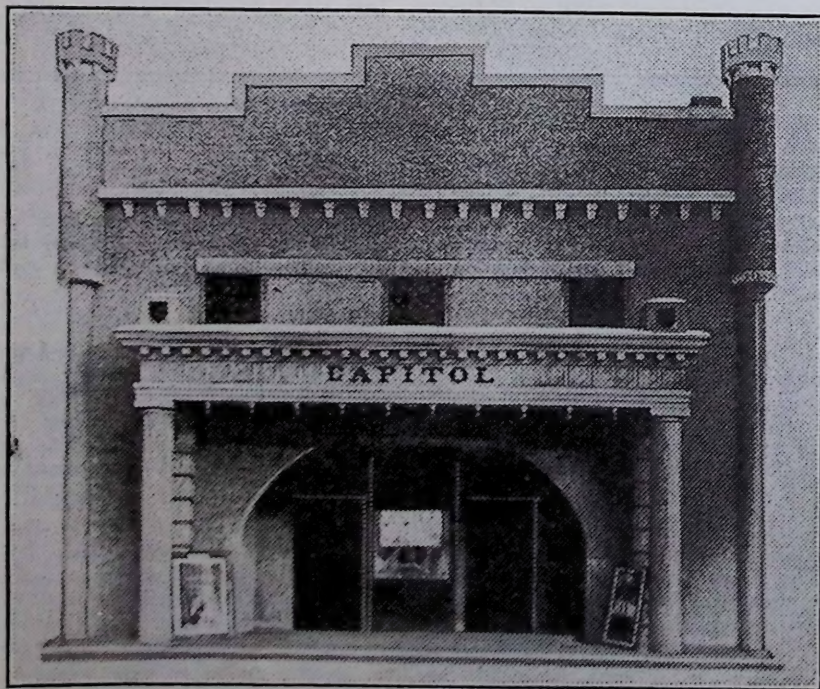
The motion picture bureau caused an expenditure of \$121,516.40 to the Provincial Government during the 12 months. This amount was made up as follows: Raw silk, photographic supplies, equipment, maintenance, etc., \$89,073.95; salaries, \$21,238.25; contingencies, \$11,204.20. There was, however, an excess of expense over revenue of \$94,762.60 but there was much in the way of indirect gain through the use of the Ontario Government pictures in many countries of the world for advertising purposes.

There will be no changes in taxation in the Province of Ontario, either up or down, during 1928, it has been announced by the Government. Late in 1927, the amusement tax was abolished on tickets of 25 cents or less, however, and the Provincial Treasurer, Hon. J. D. Monteith, has estimated that this tax relief will reduce the tax revenue to the Province to the extent of \$500,000 this year.

Sydney Cohen Sends "Brief" to Washington

States Famous "Cease and Desist" Order Would Make "Looney" Legislation Unnecessary

Sidney Cohen, president of the newly organized Film Board of Trade and Commerce has filed a brief with the Interstate Commerce Commission which states that if the Federal Trade Commission enforces its "Cease and Desist" order upon Paramount, the "Looney Legislation" as proposed by Senator Brookhart will be unnecessary.



CAPITOL THEATRE, MAGOG, QUE.

Offers any young man a chance to own his own theatre in this growing manufacturing town. Would rent with option of purchase to the right man.

Address: Capitol Theatre, Magog, Que.

Ray Presents

WHEN OSCAR HANSON, General Manager of Canadian Educational Films Limited, first came to Canada, Educational Short Subjects and Comedies were being released through the Famous Players Film Service, operated by "The Allens."

The success of "The Spice of the Programme" presented such possibilities that Mr. Hanson in conference with Mr. E. W. Hammons, President of Educational, decided to open their own exchanges in Canada; and "The Allen" interest was bought out.

EDUCATIONAL, under Mr. Hanson's directorship continued to grow in power; and later this organization successfully became a distributing organ for British features, through the Ideal affiliation in London, England; and also physical distributors for Hodkinson and FBO.

WHEN the affiliation with First National occurred, Educational concentrated its selling forces upon Short Subjects and Comedies, giving up its former and most successful policy of distributing features.

THE AFFILIATION was in the nature of an experiment and was only operative for a certain period, becoming terminated when this period expired. Educational continued its former policy and once more established itself as an Independent unit.

Because of its various English affiliations; and its Canadian financial interests, namely the Hudson Bay Company, Educational directed its efforts to some extent in securing British features for release; and is at present in negotiation for several big British films.

THE TIFFANY-STAHL Productions which Educational will now release in Canada is right in line with a policy which Mr. Hanson has always followed; and in which he has been always splendidly supported by Mr. Hammons.

Mr. Hammons is a "real boss," the kind that can see the other fellow's point of view; and the kind of a boss who has the right kind of vision in respect to the men he engages to conduct his business for him.

HANSON is "boss" in Canada; and that is just as it should be, for Mr. Hanson lives in Canada, he has the various details of his exchanges



Emil Jannings appearing with Pola Negri in Tiffany-Stahl's first release "Passion," through Educational.

under his control, he knows conditions, the Film Industry here; and having married a Canadian; and become a naturalized Canadian himself, his ambition is centralized in Canada; and he is bound to be the best kind of a man to direct the policies of his company in Canada.

WHEN interviewed on the Tiffany Stahl tie-up, Mr. Hanson stated, "I saw many of the Tiffany-Stahl features completed; and following up the material, by way of story value, direction, casts, judging the quality of production to come, from those which had already been finished, taking into consideration past performance values of Tiffany, the standing of the trademark, I knew that here was a programme of pictures which could consistently make exhibitors profits; and for such pictures there is a good market in Canada."

"No country can be overcrowded with good pictures. What we want and forever want is good pictures and still more good pictures. With these features and our Short Subjects and Comedies, exhibitors can be guaranteed a complete quality bill which has in it that variety and entertainment which is "The Spice of the Programme."

I AM GLAD to see Educational tie up with the Tiffany-Stahl productions in Canada, because I remember the success which Educational attained following this policy a few years ago. I feel that both Tiffany-Stahl and Educational will find their alliance profitable. It is an alliance between the right kind of people; and the exhibitors in Canada will receive the benefits of such excellent stewardship and showmanship.

The first release is "Passion," I have told you how good this picture is. It will open at Pantages

in Toronto; and will probably make box-office history wherever it is shown.

"WILD GEESE" is the second big release. There has been so much recent talk about this picture's phenomenal success, that it is not necessary to go into lengthy details of its merits.

The story is by Martha Ostenso, who won a prize of \$13,500, the judges considering it the best story by an American author for the year. It first ran in serial form in the Pictorial Review and when later published in book form it had an outstanding sale. It has been translated into nine different languages.

Belle Bennett, that splendid artist, plays the part of "Amelia Gare," the mother of the story; and those who remember Belle Bennett's superb "mother" in "Stella Dallas" can picture for themselves what an opportunity she has in "Wild Geese."

"WILD GEESE" made "The Roxy," in New York talk, it is big enough for the big ones; and yet it has within it that human touch which should make it a successful box-office draw anywhere.

The Tiffany-Stahl programme calls for thirty-one features; and as we glance through the casts we find a galaxy of players which is typical of the very best our Industry can furnish.

EMIL JANNINGS, Pola Negri, Belle Bennett, Jobyna Ralston, William Collier, Jr., George Fawcett, Alberta Vaughn, Pauline Starke, Kenneth Harlan, Montague Love, Sally O'Neil, Antonio Moreno, Patsy Ruth Miller, Claire Windsor, Warner Baxter, Cullen Landis, Lowell Sherman, Tom Santschi, Barbara Bedford, Betty Blythe, Margaret Livingston, Thomas Haines, Johnnie Harron, Anna May Wong, etc., etc.; all names which have become identified in this Industry with excellent work.



Pola Negri in "Passion," Tiffany-Stahl production, directed by Lubitsch.

The History of Tiffany Now Tiffany-Stahl Productions

TIFFANY PRODUCTIONS, INC., started business a few years ago as a strictly producing organization, confining itself to the production of a series of Mae Murray pictures which were released through Metro. They made the following pictures, which were considered among the most lavish and best box-office attractions at the time. The pictures they made were: "Peacock Alley," "Fascination," "Broadway Rose," "French Doll," "Mada-moiselle Midnight," "Circe the Enchantress," "Fashion Row."

Encouraged by the success of this output, Tiffany decided that it was entitled to a place among the first-line companies, not only as a production organization but as a distributor as well. Therefore Mr. Hoffman proceeded to organize Tiffany exchanges, with the result that Tiffany owned and controlled exchanges have been put into operation in twenty-eight principal centers of the United States—four in Canada and twelve abroad, seven of which are operating in England. So that, Tiffany found itself with forty-four exchanges operating in full force throughout the world.

Then they found that in order to supply the demand they had created for Tiffany product, a more complete and efficient production organization was necessary to the one that filled the requirements to make eight big Specials over a certain period. In other words, Tiffany not only needed quality of product, but a greater quantity as well. In the meantime, the Tiffany Company produced and released

through its exchanges, quite a number of successful pictures, among them "Souls For Sables," "College Days," "The Broken Gate," "Enchanted Island," "Lightning," and others.

In looking over the field, the Tiffany Company found that if they could get John Stahl to associate with the company, they would have the best executive head in charge of their



Oscar Hanson, General Manager of the Canadian Educational Films Limited, who will distribute in addition to Educational's "Spice of the Programme," the Tiffany-Stahl Productions.

productions and the organization would be complete in all its branches.

Now then, Tiffany is proud to announce that not only has John M. Stahl aligned himself with L. A. Young and M. H. Hoffman in becoming one of the three owners of the company, but that we consider John M. Stahl's reputation and prestige in the business of sufficient importance to change the name of the company from Hiffany Productions, Inc., to Tiffany-Stahl Productions, Inc.

Stahl's Record

John M. Stahl is not only considered one of the most capable and successful Directors in the motion picture business, but he is reputed to be one of the most successful Producers. It is said of John M. Stahl that he laid the foundation which built up Louis B. Mayer's success.

Stahl's record speaks for itself in such successes as: "The Dangerous Age," "Why Men Leave Home," "Memory Lane," "Husbands and Lovers," "Fine Clothes," "A Gay Deceiver," "Song of Life," "The Child Thou Gavest Me," and his latest special production, "In Old Kentucky."

In order not to limit the important plans and activities that Mr. Stahl and Mr. Hoffman decided upon, Mr. L. A. Young, President of the Company, decided to increase the budget of the Tiffany-Stahl Productions for production purposes, from Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) to Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000).

Tiffany-Stahl Studios

Then came the next move — Stahl and Hoffman didn't like the idea of being "without a home" — so Mr. Young wired
(Continued on Page 18)



M. H. Hoffman, President of the Tiffany-Stahl Productions, Inc.

Tiffany-Stahl Productions Presents

"BACKSTAGE"

by Sarah Y. Mason

A Story Scintillating with
the Colorful Life of the
Girls of the Chorus —
Their Loves, Struggles,
Pleasures—

To Three Girls, Chorus Life Was a Lark
—To One a Stepping Stone to Fame.

Appearances Were Against Her, and Im-
petuous Youth, Blinded By A Deep Love,
Could Not Forgive A Transgression.

A Comedy Drama of Unusual Merit

An Extraordinary Cast
Of Players Including

WILLIAM COLLIER, Jr.
BARBARA BEDFORD,
ALBERTA VAUGHN,
EILEEN PERCY,
SHIRLEY O'HARA,
GAYNE WHITMAN,
JOCELYN LEE,
GUINN WILLIAMS,
JIMMY HARRISON,
BROOKS BENEDICT.

Directed by PHIL STONE
A Tiffany Production



Distributed thru **Canadian Educational Films Limited**

St. John - Montreal - Toronto - Winnipeg - Calgary - Vancouver

**Tiffany Stahl Productions
Presents**

The Enchanted Island

by
John Thomas Neville

The Most Unusual Picture of the Year!

ENCHANTMENT!

From Childhood to Her
Teens, Her Playground was
a Tropic Isle of Enchantment
Her Playmates the Denizens
of the Forest and Jungles

AN EPIC ROMANTIC DRAMA

THE DAWN OF LOVE

Then There Came Into Her
Carefree Existence a Youth
Like an Adonis Who Told
Her of the World Beyond—
And Love Came to Eden.

A BEAUTIFUL IDYLL

Dressed as a Boy She Was Able
to Hide Her Femininity For a
While Until Her Curiosity
Overcame Her Caution

A Picture Framed in a Setting
of Nature's Most Gorgeous
Handiwork

With a Notable Cast Including
CHARLOTTE STEVENS, HENRY
B. WALTHALL, PIERRE GENDRON,
PAT HARTIGAN, FLOYD
SHACKLEFORD

Directed by WM. G. CROSBY

A Tiffany Production



Distributed thru CANADIAN EDUCATIONAL FILMS LIMITED

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TIFFANY-STAHl PRODUCTIONS

31

PASSION—Emil Jannings, Pola Negri, Harry Liedtke, Reinhold Schunzel.

WILD GEESE—Belle Bennett, Russell Simpson, Eve Southern, Donald Keith, Jason Robards, Anita Stewart, Wesley Barry, Raida Rae, Austen Jewel, Evelyn Selbie, D'arcy Corrigan, Bert Starkey, Jack Gardner, James Mack, Bert Spotte, Bodil Rosing.

LIGHTNING—Jobyna Ralston, Margaret Livingston, Robert Frazer, Guinn Williams, Pat Harmon.

ENCHANTED ISLAND—Charlotte Stevens, Henry B. Walthall, Pierre Gendron, Pat Hartigan, Floyd Shackleford.

BEAUTY SHOPPERS—Mae Busch, Doris Hill, Ward Crane, Thomas Haines, Cissy Fitzgerald, James A. Marcus, Leo White, Dale Fuller, William A. Carroll, Lucio Flamma.

SNOWBOUND—Betty Blythe, Lillian Rich, Robert Agnew, George Fawcett, Martha Mattox, Harold Goodwin, Guinn Williams, Pat Harmon, Wm. A. Carroll, Dorothea Wolbert.

BACKSTAGE—William Collier, Jr., Barbara Bedford, Alberta Vaughn, Eileen Percy, Shirley O'Hara, Gayne Whitman, Jocelyn Lee, Guinn Williams, Jimmy Harrison, Brooks Benedict, Lincoln Plumer, Marcia Harris, Louis Carver, John Batten.

THE GIRL FROM GAY PAREE—Barbara Bedford, Lowell Sherman, Malcolm McGregor, Walter Hiers, Margaret Livingston, Betty Blythe.

ONCE AND FOREVER—Patsy Ruth Miller, Johnnie Harron, Emily Fitzroy, William V. Mong.

WOMEN'S WARES—Evelyn Brent, Bert Lytell, Gertrude Short, Larry Kent.

NIGHT LIFE—Alice Day, Johnnie Harron, Eddie Gribbon, Walter Hiers, Patricia Avery, Earle Metcalfe.

THE HAUNTED SHIP—Dorothy Sebastian, Montague Love, Tom Santschi, Ray Hallor, Pat Harmon, Alice Lake.

STREETS OF SHANGHAI—Pauline Starke, Kenneth Harlan, Margaret Livingston, Eddie Gribbon, Jason Robard, Mathilde Comont, Sojin, Anna May Wong.

A WOMAN AGAINST THE WORLD—Gertrude Olmsted, Walter Hiers, Lee Moran, Sally Rand, Harrison Ford, Rosemary Theby, Georgia Hale.

THE DEVIL'S SKIPPER—Belle Bennett, Montague Love, Mary McAlister, Cullen Landis.

THE TRAGEDY OF YOUTH—Warner Baxter, Patsy Ruth Miller, Buster Collier, Harvey Clark, Claire McDowell, Margaret Quimby.

THEIR HOUR—Dorothy Sebastian, John Harron, June Marlowe, Huntley Gordon, Myrtle Stedman, Holmes Herbert, John Stepping.

NAMELESS MEN—Antonio Moreno, Claire Windsor, Eddie Gribbon, Ray Hallor, Sally Rand, Steppin Fetchut, Carolyn Snowden, Charles Clark.

THE HOUSE OF SCANDAL—Dorothy Sebastian, Pat O'Malley, Harry Murray, Gino Corrado, Lee Schumway.

BACHELOR'S PARADISE—Sally O'Neill, Ralph Graves, Eddie Gribbon, Sylvia Ashton.

THE GRAIN OF DUST
BEAUTIFUL BUT DUMB
THE ALBANY NIGHT BOAT
LINGERIE
GREEN GRASS WIDOWS

LADIES OF THE NIGHT CLUB
THE SCARLET DOVE
DOMESTIC RELATIONS
CLOTHES MAKE THE WOMAN
SEA PROWLERS

STORMY WATERS

Distributed thru

Canadian Educational Films Limited

31

St. John - Montreal - Toronto -

Winnipeg - Calgary - Vancouver

31

TIFFANY-STAHl PRODUCTIONS

(Continued from Page 8)

result was—the purchase by the Tiffany-Stahl Company of the Fine Arts Studio at the junction of Sunset and Hollywood Boulevards, which will hereafter be known as Tiffany-Stahl Studios. This deal involved a little over a half-million dollars and immediately upon taking possession it is the intention of the company to do considerable building, giving additional stage space and proper office accommodations as well as equipment, which will involve another Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000). The executives of the company feel that this studio should be able to accommodate conveniently the production of a maximum of thirty-six pictures for the following year. The present plans are to produce twenty-six pictures known as Tiffany-Stahl Gems and four Special Productions, suitable for indefinite runs, and most probably six of the better class of outdoor or action pictures — depending what the market will require at the time.

Directors-Players-Authors

Further in keeping with the progress of the company and its establishment and recognition as one of the big line companies, Messrs. Stahl and Hoffman became busy lining up Directors, writers and players for the Tiffany-Stahl organization.

Marcel DeSano has been engaged to produce a special production for Tiffany-Stahl.

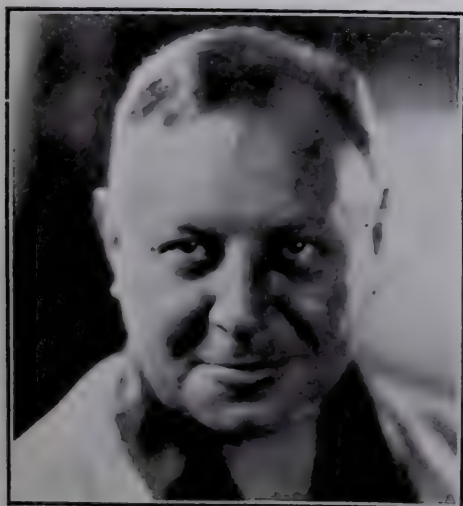
George Archainbaud, after completing "Night Life" for the Tiffany-Stahl Company, has been signed on a long term contract to direct.

Christy Cabanne is busily engaged on his pet story.

Al Raboch has also aligned himself with Tiffany-Stahl Productions.

Phil Rosen has produced "A Woman Against The World," with Harrison Ford (Courtesy of Cecil B. DeMille), Georgia Hale, Harvey Clark, Lee Moran, Gertrude Olmstead and Walter Hiers.

Louis Gasnier produced the "Streets of Shanghai," featuring Pauline Stark and supported by Kenneth Harlan, Margaret Livingston, Eddie Gribbon, Jason Robard, Mathilde Commont, Herbert Evans, Sojin, Anna May Wong, and others.



That internationally famous artist, Emil Jannings, as King Louis XIV. in "Passion," directed by Ernst Lubitsch.

Albert Shelby LeVino is in complete charge of stories for the company, under the direct supervision of John M. Stahl.

John Francis Natteford, the well known magazine and short story writer, is assisting Mr. LeVino.

Some of the other writers on the staff are—Olga Printzlaw, Gertrude Orr, Peter Milne, Frances Hyland, Viola Brothers Shore, the noted magazine writer, connected with the Saturday Evening Post, Liberty, College and The Red Book, and Harry Braxton. Miss Shore and Mr. Braxton are under contract to the company to write stories and scripts, titles and do general editing.

Harry Myers who needs no introduction as a sterling actor, comedian, comedy director and gag man, has also been added to the staff of the organization.

In addition to placing good artists under contract, with well known box office names, it is the plan of the organization to farm its own stock company and to develop new material in artists.

King Baggot is another Tiffany-Stahl producer.

No Theatres For Tiffany

"The Tiffany-Stahl Company does not intend to go into the theatre business," states Mr. Hoffman when interviewed. "It does not believe in going into competition with its customers. It does not believe that such a step is good business, because regardless of the so-called chain monopoly and the shutting out of outside product — the public and its demand for the right kind of entertainment is the judge for that, and no theatre, regardless by whom controlled, can afford to deprive itself of box office pictures, regardless by whom produced or distributed. Good pictures don't care who makes them, nor does the public. And good pictures will find their way into theatres in spite of attempted monopoly. We have sufficient confidence in our ability to make the kind of pictures that the public wants, which makes it unnecessary for us to go into competition with our own customers, nor will it be necessary for us to beg for representation. The quality of our product will force it.

We do wish to modify the above statement in one respect, however, namely, that should we find it advisable or necessary to acquire twenty odd theatres throughout the country so as to properly present and show other exhibitors how to present Tiffany-Stahl productions, we are quite ready and financially able to take that step, but this acquisition of theatres if gone into, will absolutely be for the purpose of properly exploiting our pictures, but in no manner is it intended as a step into the exhibiting business."

Economy

"Just a word on the matter of the much talked of economy in the production of pictures — Tiffany-Stahl does its economizing at the source of the evil. It does not maintain or support non-productive executives at exorbitant salaries. It does not waste in lost motion and lost money. Tiffany does not intend economizing at the expense of quality or at the expense of the actual workers, such as artists, directors and writers. Tiffany is always ready to pay all that a man or woman is worth, and its policy is — "live and let live."

Third Dimension Pictures

Last but not least, don't forget those third dimension pictures, the patents of



Pola Negri as Jeanne Vaubernier, later Madame Du Barry, favorite of King Louis XIV. in "Passion," Educational's first release of the Tiffany-Stahl Productions.

which Tiffany owns and controls. Stereoscopic motion pictures without the use of any attachments, glasses or anything for that matter, projected on the screen the same as the present ordinary picture, is the next great development for the picture industry. Tiffany has it."

The Tiffany-Stahl programme as released through Canadian Educational promises thirty-one features. The first releases are "Passion," "Wild Geese," "The Enchanted Island," "Backstage," "Lightning," "The Beauty Shoppers," "Snowbound."

Merchants Fighting Sunday Theatre Closing Quebec

Considerable weight has been added to the arguments of those who are fighting the proposal of the Quebec Provincial Government to close the theatres of Quebec cities on Sundays by the official announcement of the Retail Merchants Association of Canada that many places of business will also be affected adversely by the step.

The Merchants Association, which has lined up with the Montreal exhibitors and the labor unions in opposing the move by Hon. L. A. Taschereau, Provincial Premier, to enforce the Lord's Day Observance Act of 1907, has pointed out that many places of business will come under the ban in addition to the theatres. These will include cigar, fruit, soft drink, stationery, drug and candy stores, gasoline service stations, garages, newstands, restaurants, billiard halls, bowling alleys, amusement parks, athletic fields of all kinds, hockey arenas and others.

Some of those who have recently passed resolutions against Sunday Theatre Closing include the Montreal Chapter of the International Moulders Union and the Canadian Workers Federation of Returned Soldiers and Sailors.

More Trouble for Ontario Exhibitors

Aurelien Belanger of Ontario Legislature Gives Notice of Children's Bill

Aurelien Belanger, Liberal member of the Ontario Legislature for Russell has given notice of a bill to amend the Theatre and Cinematograph Act effecting the attendance of juveniles at Motion Picture Theatres.

He proposes to appoint a representative to the Provincial Board of Censors, whose duty it would be to revise films from the standpoint of their effect upon children.

Films meeting with the approval of this special censor would be stamped to indicate that they can be shown to children under the age of sixteen; and unstamped films could not be shown to juveniles under that age, whether they were accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Mr. Belanger also proposes additional matrons for theatres in proportion to children's attendance.

The Brockville Recorder-Times in commenting editorially on the question writes:

"For the growing wave of opposition to the unrestricted attendance of children at exhibitions of motion pictures, those in charge of that industry alone are to blame. No person will deny that a wholesome story told in picture form may have as beneficial an effect upon the juvenile mind as it has upon the adult, but the predominance of film offerings which fail to reach such a standard renders it necessary that some form of regulation come into force. The objection which may be quite properly made to many of the films which it is now permissible to exhibit is that they give a wholly false and distorted idea of life, and that they thus register improper impressions upon the minds of those more easily influenced. To such an extent has this tendency been carried that many of those who were in other years inveterate picture-goers have become heartily sickened of the screen and can be induced to attend only those exhibitions which they know to be above question. Every opportunity has been given the film industry to reform itself, but it has betrayed very little anxiety to do so. The chief purpose of Hollywood still seems to be to portray lightly veiled nastiness and to deluge the world with productions which just pass the censors and no more. That is one of the chief reasons why the British public is turning more and more to home film productions and why the public of this country is insisting upon a due admixture of British films with its customary "movie" diet. It is not that Britishers do not admire the artistry

of Hollywood, but they do dislike the prevailing theme, and they sigh for relief from the sordid and the tawdry and long for productions that will do a little more credit to their intelligence.

"If the Legislature decides to adopt Mr. Belanger's bill, it will confer a lasting benefit upon the children of this province. But whether the bill does or does not become law, the fact that it has been introduced and that the proposals contained in it have been given a great deal of support throughout the province shows clearly that the public is not by any means satisfied with its film fare and that it would welcome a change for the better."

Keith-Albee Negotiate For London Theatre

Thomas W. Brady, of the Producers-Distributors Corp. of Toronto, interviewed Mayor Werrige, of London, Ont., on behalf of the B. F. Keith-Albee Circuit, in connection with the purchase of the property owned by London on Dundas S., east of the Hotel London.

The frontage of the property extends from the laneway on the east side of the Hotel London to the west end of the Armories. It is now occupied by a garage and a number of houses.

Offers of purchase must be submitted to the city council for ratification. The land is reported as worth around \$800.00 a foot.

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" Meeting With Success

"Uncle Tom's Cabin," which closed a successful engagement at The Regent, Toronto, where it steadily built up its business, goes to the Capitol, London; Savoy, Hamilton; for a week's engagement, two shows daily, one dollar up.

It follows for two days at Chatham, Sarnia, Kitchener, goes to Galt for one day, Brantford two days and Woodstock one day, Guelph two days. Recommencing its tour Easter Monday with Sam Marks as musical director, and a special orchestra of three pieces.

Abe Wilkes who recently represented "Wings," Paramount's exceptionally successful feature, is now in advance of Universal's "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Twelve Pictures Listed By New Independent

The Empire Producing Company, headed by Jack Lustberg a new independent producing unit will release twelve features, one a month, during the first year of its career.

Canadian Representative Col. Cooper in Accident

Col. John A. Cooper, while enroute from Winnipeg to Calgary, met with a serious accident at Regina, Sask. The Colonel left his pullman to take a walk at the stop-over at Regina; and noting that the train was pulling out, ran to catch his car. He slipped upon the icy steps; and striking his head was rendered unconscious.

Amputation of about four inches of the right foot was found necessary, owing to the crushed condition of the foot. Several cuts about the hands, the face, injury to the left knee, are among the injuries which Col. Cooper received.

The blow on the head was perhaps a "saving grace" for it probably saved Col. Cooper from twisting himself into a more dangerous position under the moving train.

Wounds in the face were treated with stitches. The thumb of the right hand was also badly crushed. The accident was a serious one, but reports from the Regina Hospital where Col. Cooper was taken after the accident, are reassuring.

It is expected that Col. Cooper will be back in Toronto within ten days.

The news of the accident came as a great shock to the Industry of Motion Pictures, which Col. Cooper, as head of the Canadian branch of the Hays' Organization, serves so well.

It was while in pursuit of his offices as representative of the M.P.P.D.A. that he met with his unfortunate accident.

Col. John Cooper is a Canadian, born at Trenton, Ontario. During the war he was in command of the 198th Battalion, Canadian Buffs, with whom he went overseas, later joining General Rennie's Brigade in France.

Col. Cooper has been interested in Motion Pictures since 1921, being the Chairman of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association, until this body became identified with the Hays' Organization in 1925, when Col. Cooper became its official Canadian head.

The Colonel is sixty years young, vigorous, active, aggressive, a born soldier and fighter, with a Scotch sense of humour and wit. The sincere good wishes of our Industry are with him in his fight back to health; and the command of those activities of which he is such a splendid representative.

WANTED

At once, Theatre to rent, in good live town, population not less than 3,000. Reply BOX 41, WESTON, ONTARIO.

Sir Austen Chamberlain States "Dawn" Outrage

Foreign British Secretary Disapproves Showing of British Feature of Nurse Cavell

"Dawn," the Wilcox British feature, appears to have become the centre of a divided press; and public opinion in Great Britain.

Sir Austin Chamberlain, British Foreign Secretary, should, however, in this matter be capable of passing a reasonable judgment as to the effect of the picture internationally.

The picture was banned for showing in motion picture theatres in Great Britain, but was purchased by Arthur Selwyn for America.

It is to be released in the "legit" houses in Great Britain, however, and the battle in connection with it goes on.

German officials asked that the picture be banned, fearing a re-awakening of War-hatreds as a result.

Sir Austin Chamberlain's great objection to the film was the scene of execution. This scene he was informed involved the refusal of one of the German firing party to level his rifle at Miss Cavell, and this soldier was promptly shot.

The rest of the soldiers are shown as raising their rifles to the level of the Nurse's head, Nurse Cavell falling in a faint and an officer stepping forward to dispatch her.

"I believe that account of the execution to be wholly improper," said Sir Austin Chamberlain, "and I feel it is an outrage on a noble woman's memory to turn to purposes of commercial profits so heroic a story."

When asked regarding the general principle of the establishment of a political censorship of films, he replied, "I am not dealing with general censorships of films, I am speaking as an English gentleman about what I think is an outrage on humanity."

The foreign secretary further stated that the film version account of the execution was "inherently incredible, and certainly on my information, it is incorrect."

Incidentally, I do not believe that the presentation of the execution of Nurse Cavell, such as described by Sir Austin Chamberlain would be particularly inspiring to her memory.

Britishers have been taught to believe that we Britishers meet death with our back against the wall. To die bravely is part of the make-up of those who live bravely; and to show Nurse Cavell as falling in a faint when faced by death does not appear to be consistent with the history of her service.

The Industry of Motion Pictures has enough troubles to contend with

at home and internationally without starting international complications and reviving War-time memories with its hatreds. Let us have a bit of England. England as an Empire builder, a refuge for the Races of the World, England at Peace not forgetting the beauty of her environment and her traditions.

Toronto Theatres

UPTOWN—"The Dove," with Norma Talmadge — United Artists. Class A. One of the most pleasing pictures Norma has given us for quite some time. Beautifully produced and magnificently directed by Roland West, with a superlative cast. Gilbert Roland makes a fine male lead.

TIVOLI — "The Battle of the Falkland and Coronel Islands" — British Regal release. Class A. A tremendously interesting film from the British angle which gives an impartial presentation of these naval battles which took place. Because of its international vision in direction it should prove a box-office draw everywhere. The photography is marvellous and the acting most excellent. The story is tense and has a human appeal.

LOEWS — "Wickedness Preferred," with Lew Cody and Aileen Pringle — Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Class B plus. An amusing farce with a wicked title, but otherwise not so wicked. Lew Cody as a flirtatious author-explorer, visits a seaside resort for rest and story material. Aileen Pringle goes along also as his wife. Here they meet a woman who is looking for a cave-man with which to have a romance. She has read the book of our author-hero, and he looks like a real heman to her, besides she is married to a rather complaisant fat husband. Our heroine, wife of the author, allows her husband and the doting female to elope. They become marooned upon an island, and not being able to satisfy an appetite, which longs for porridge and beef-steak, with a feat of love, the lovers are glad to be rescued and restored to that state of conjugal bliss which they previously did not enjoy.

SHEA'S HIPPODROME — "The Tigress," with Jack Holt — Columbia.

PANTAGES — "Sharp Shooters," with George O'Brien and Lois Moran — Paramount.

William Boyd is enacting scenes in New York City for "The Cop," a new Pathe picture.

Prof. Stephen Leacock Gets Funny With Movies

Stephen Leacock, who was in Montreal recently, had his "little humorous say" about Motion Pictures. He is reported as having said that the U. S. Films were giving Canadian children the idea that only Americans were he-men, in so far as the last War and history were concerned.

The Professor of Humour, may have been "pulling the leg" of his listeners, for we Canadians have had plenty of opportunity in our several War films to discover that the "he"-men and the "she"-men of the Great War were the men and women of all the nations who were engaged in War; and the several U. S. War films which we have had did not specially glorify the U. S. soldier. The biggest of them like "The Big Parade," "What Price Glory," "Wings" revealed War stripped a great deal of its glorification; and such an "undressing" will not hurt the people of any nation.

I would hate to think that the professor was toadying to Quebec, which appears to need a great deal of humorous support in order to enable it to put over the various bills it is contemplating in connection with Motion Pictures.

Incidentally if the amendment goes through re-the children, they can see films at schools or Sunday schools, night schools, etc., etc., and the admission taken care of in a silver collection.

They tell me that "silver collections" have given Evangelists summer cottages, and winter palaces!

Theatre & Cinema Association Formed in Quebec

The Theatre and Cinema Association of the Province of Quebec has been organized under the laws of Quebec, with headquarters at Montreal, for exhibitors of all Quebec cities and towns for the purpose of opposing the serious measures which are now up before the Quebec Legislature. These legislative proposals include the closing of theatres on Sundays and a ban on the admission of all children under 16 years of age to moving picture theatres in the Province even when accompanied by adults.

The Retail Merchants Association of Canada has extended its active support to the campaign against Sunday closing while the labor unions also want Sunday shows.

Mr. N. L. Nathanson Returns From Visit to Cuba

N. L. Nathanson, Managing Director of the Famous-Players Canadian Corp., returned this week to Toronto, after having spent several weeks in Cuba.

British Film Activities Disclose Theatre Sales United Kingdom

Sir Walter Gibbons—I. W. Schlesinger Reported Active in Theatre Buying.

Information from His Majesty's Trade Commissioner in Toronto discloses that there is a great deal of theatre trading in progress throughout the United Kingdom. A bulletin issued by the Department reveals the following interesting facts—

REMARKABLE ACTIVITY is being shown at present in the business of theatre ownership, although it is not always possible to disentangle rumours from fact. It appears certain, however, that considerable movements are on foot, and that big interests are taking steps to secure circuits of theatres in the home market. It has, for example, been announced that the theatrical interests of the Variety Theatres Controlling Co. Ltd., of which Mr. Charles Gulliver was the chairman, have been disposed of to a new syndicate, which is stated to have between 5 and 10 millions of British money behind it. It is further reported that it is the intention of this group, stated to be acting through Sir Walter Gibbons, to acquire ultimately between 70 and 80 theatres up and down the country. Under the title of the United Picture Theatres, a further group of picture houses, at present 9 in number, but likely to be extended, is being formed, and it is understood that the leading figure in the business is Mr. I. W. Schlesinger, the well known South African cinema theatre owner. It has been stated in the press that so much interest is being shown in theatre ownership at present that practically every theatre owner in the country has received an invitation from one or other of the groups at work to give the terms on which each theatre would be sold.

The movement which is now in progress is likely to have very important results in the industry which appears to be passing out of the control of the small exhibitor owning a single theatre, into that of strong financial groups operating through circuits of theatres. The buying and selling which is being reported is causing anxiety to the small theatre owners, who still of course, form the bulk of the exhibiting side of the industry, and there is renewed talk of the Trading Scheme under which small exhibitors would combine for buying purposes in order to protect their interests from the big groups.

Overseas Sales

An important agreement has just been made between British Dominions Films Proprietary Ltd., Australia,

and certain home producers for the distribution of their output in Australia and New Zealand. The negotiations have been carried through by Mr. C. R. Herschell, and the United Kingdom firms who will now show all their films through the above mentioned Australian company in the markets named are the Gaumont Co., Ltd., British Instructional Films Ltd., and New Era Films Ltd. The agreement is not an amalgamation, and the term of years for which it has been made is believed to be limited. The arrangement is, however, of great importance as giving definite distribution for these British films in Australia and New Zealand.

Distortograph

Under the above name a new device has been invented by Mr. H. G. Ponting and Mr. G. W. Ford by which distorted effects can be obtained by a new optical system used with an ordinary cinematograph camera. No mirrors are used in this invention, and it is possible to exaggerate any particular part of the subject, as for example, the eyes, nose or chin of one of the actors. It is difficult to forecast the use which will be made of this invention, but it is by no means unlikely that it will mark a big step forward in film making, and its possibilities in comic films and farcical subjects are obvious. The invention,

like many others in cinematography, is a British one.

State of Production

Figures have been given in recent issues of the Bulletin as to the number of British films being made. In continuation the figures for the present month are as follows:

Films awaiting trade show—22 as against 20 last month.

Films in production—11 as against 11 last month.

Films scheduled for production—70 as against 61 last month.

British pictures shown to the trade, but not released—27 as against 26 last month.

New Pictures

Among new British films recently trade shown may be mentioned "The White Sheik," based on a dramatic story of the Riff country, and "Shooting Stars." The last named is based on a story by Mr. Anthony Asquith, son of the late Earl of Oxford and Asquith, who thus enters The Films.

The new subjects scheduled for production cover a wide range of themes including film versions of plays, such as "The Ringer," "The Silent House," and "White Cargo," subjects of more definitely British character, such as "Widdicombe Fair," "Drake," "Cromwell," "The Campbells are Coming," "Gretna Green," etc. The number of war films is limited as it is felt that the demand for war films is not so strong as it was, but the few war pictures are likely to be very good ones, including "1918," "Tell England," and "Vimy Ridge."

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Round About the Studios



Sensuous Renee Adoree, who will be seen shortly opposite John Gilbert in "The Cossacks," for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Harold Lloyd, now at work on the final task of cutting and editing his new picture, "Speedy," just revealed that nearly half a million feet of film—negative and positive—had been used in the picture. Lloyd pointed out that it was a picture involving peculiar difficulties in "shooting." He used 325,000 feet of negative film alone, from which only about 8,000 feet will be exhibited.

Lew Cody's new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture, and his first since his recent return from a vaudeville tour, got under way at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio last week when "A Man About Town" went into production under the direction of Malcolm St. Clair.

The only members of the supporting cast of the picture so far selected are Heinie Conklin, playing the part of a negro servant, and George O'Hara, formerly featured in a series of fight pictures.

Charley Bowers, who is making a series of two-reel novelty comedies for Educational, has a new leading lady. She is Betty Cauldwell, who has been playing western leads for Universal during the past year. Miss Cauldwell is one of the few girls in motion pictures who were born in Hollywood.

Cementing a friendship that arose through working together in the same pictures for nearly two years Tom Tyler, FBO western star, and Frankie Darro, 8 year old featured player, recently purchased new homes within four doors of each other in Beverly Hills, the fashionable section of the screen colony.

Edward Sloman, who has just finished "We Americans," left Universal City this week for a vacation in Hawaii. When he returns he will start work on "The Girl on the Barge" by Rupert Hughes.

Hugh Allan, who supported William Boyd in "Dress Parade," plays a prominent role in Rod LaRocque's new Pathe picture, "Hold 'Em Yale."

Coming as a climax to his sensational work in "The Crowd," now playing at the Astor Theatre, New York, James Murray, formerly a doorman at the Capitol, and now a protege of King Vidor, has been selected to play the leading male role in Marion Davies' new Cosmopolitan starring film, which King Vidor will direct. This Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film is as yet untitled.

Florence Vidor will be starred in a new film called "The Magnificent Flirt," from an original story written by H. D'Abbadie D'Arrast, the young director who won such success with recent Adolphe Menjou pictures and who will direct Miss Vidor in this new work. Miss Vidor at present is at work in the Emil Jannings picture, "The Patriot," under the directorship of Ernst Lubitsch. The story, "The Magnificent Flirt," is being adapted for the screen by Jean de Limur. Paul Lukas is cast for a leading role.

Ruby McCoy, recently made a leading lady in Educational-Cameo Comedies, will be seen in the principal feminine role in "Count Me Out," a forthcoming Cameo release. Miss McCoy, it will be recalled, until recently was a cigarette girl at the Montmartre Cafe, Hollywood.

After several years of retirement from active screen work, Rosemary Cooper, formerly a popular leading lady, has returned to the films and is playing a small part in Leo Meehan's latest FBO production, "The Little Yellow House," which features Martha Sleeper and Orville Caldwell.

When "Lonesome" finished its last scene at Universal City recently, the shut-down of Universal's producing plant was complete until April 15. At that time it will re-open to start the program of western features. "Lonesome" is the Paul Fejos feature with Glenn Tryon and Barbara Kent, under the supervision of Carl Laemmle, Jr.

"Galloping Ghosts" is an intriguing mystery comedy announced for March release by Pathe.



"The Silver Salve" is Irene Rich's latest for Warner Bros.

Jack Conway, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer director whose most recent picture for that organization is William Haines' "The Smart Set," welcomed the arrival last week of a healthy-looking nine and a quarter pound baby boy, born at the Hollywood Hospital.

Mrs. Conway was the former Virginia Bushman, the daughter of Francis X. Bushman.

Edward Laemmle, who has just completed "The Michigan Kid," and Julius Bernheim, supervisor of "The Cohens and Kellys in Paris" and "Give and Take," are planning trips to Europe during the temporary cessation of operations at Universal City.

Paramount studio officials are so pleased with "The Showdown," George Bancroft's first starring picture, that practically the entire cast will be retained for Bancroft's second film, a crime story, as yet untitled. Additionally interesting is the fact that the new director, Josef von Sternberg, is the man who made "Underworld," which elevated Bancroft to stardom, and that two of the players who are to support Bancroft in his new film, also appeared in that picture. They are Evelyn Brent and Fred Kohler.



Scene from "Monkey Business," a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer comedy starring George K. Arthur and Karl Dane.



"TEDDY" GOULD

An Open Letter of Appreciation to the Exhibitors of Western Canada

To My Many Friends in the West:--

It certainly has been very gratifying to get so many favorable replies to my appeal to you a short time ago for assistance from you during the forthcoming "REGAL WEEK," April 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st.

For this kind co-operation I sincerely thank you all. There are a few points I have not heard from as yet, but no doubt this is because you are trying to re-arrange your bookings.

However, if it is a question of what is available for you, or the price, if you will drop me a line, I will be only too pleased to give you a list of the available pictures or adjust prices. As you know, Regal Films releases a great many different subjects. You have your choice of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Pathe-De Mille and English-made Productions, as well as many other independent subjects, beside our great list of Short Subjects, Comedies, Serials, News Reels, Cartoons, etc., etc. Again thanking you for your support, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

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